made free. The export and import of cotton are allowed keeping in view the interests of growers and the industry. Cotton imported during the last three years is as under:

| Year (Oct.-Sept.) | Quantity imported in lakh bales of 170 kg each |
|---|---|
| 1998-1999 | 7.87 |
| 1999-2000 | 22.01 |
| 2000-2001 | 16.00* |

*CAB estimates as on 24-02-2001

**Export or textile in the first half of 2001**

†4099. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI :
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that textile industry lias done some export during the first half of 2001;

(b) if so, the details for the items exported by the industry; and

(c) the quantity and value of the above export and how does it compare with the exports during the first six months of the previous year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The items of textiles being exported are readymade garments, cotton fabrics, yarn and made-ups, man-made textiles, wool and woollen textiles, silk, handicrafts, carpets and other floor coverings, jute and coir.

(c) As per latest available DGCI&S data, the textile exports January-May 2001 were US $ 4931.0 million as compared to US $ 4844.8 million during the corresponding period of 2000, recording an increase of 1.8 per cent.

†Originnl notice of the question was received in Hindi.